Project proposals that are complete in all respects are approved as per the extant guidelines on the basis of *inter-se* priority and funds released, subject to their availability under respective head.

Beautification of Jama Masjid

342. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any steps to protect the Jama Masjid to its glory;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount spent thereon during the recent years on protection and maintenance of Jama Masjid and beautification of adjoining area?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (e) Jama Masjid, Delhi is not a centrally protected monument. However, due to its historical and architectural importance, the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has, from time to time, undertaken repairs of the mosque while maintaining the original character of the monument. An estimate amounting to Rs. 47.52 lakhs has been sanctioned by ASI for structural repairs to the mosque. The work is in progress and, till date an expenditure of Rs. 11,66,725/- has been incurred. In addition, ASI has executed chemical preservation work of the brass doors and marble stones of Jama Masjid at an expenditure of Rs. 2,20,000/-. No expenditure has been incurred by ASI on beautification of the adjoining area.

Unprotected heritage sites

343. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of unprotected heritage sites are subjected to large scale destruction;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps have been taken to preserve these heritages?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) Unprotected heritage is destroyed due to various factors including urbanization and commercialization around such heritage sites.

(c) No central legislation currently exists for conservation and protection of unprotected heritage. There is a central scheme for financial assistance for preservation of unprotected monuments less than 100 years old.

Sahitya Akademy Award

344. KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that not a single drama writer from Assam has been awarded 'Sahitya Akademy Award' on any of his dramas; and